

Message Text

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54

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SPC-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 NEA-10 EUR-25 NSC-10

SS-20 STR-08 CEA-02 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 DRC-01 /191 W

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R 191700Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5971

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, CG

SUBJECT: ZAIRIANIZATION OF CERTAIN FOREIGN BUSINESSES

1. AS CONSEQUENCE OF GOZ ACTIONS TAKEN TO ZAIRIANIZE CERTAIN FOREIGN BUSINESSES, TWO AMERICAN FIRMS REPRESENTED IN KINSHASA HAVE ADVISED THEIR PRINCIPALS IN THE US TO STOP SHIPMENTS OF GOODS TO ZAIRE VALUED AT ABOUT \$75,000.

2. COMMENT: SINCE REPRESENTATIVES OF ONLY TWO US COMPANIES THUS FAR CHOSE TO INFORM EMBASSY OF THEIR ACTIONS, WE ARE UNABLE TO ASCERTAIN THE VALUE OF US EXPORTS TO ZAIRE THAT WILL BE AFFECTED OVER THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

E. ZAIRIANIZATION MEASURES AS ANNOUNCED IN PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S NOV 30 SPEECH AND IN THE ISSUANCE OF SUBSEQUENT GOZ ORDINANCES COULD HAVE SERIOUS ADVERSE EFFECT ON INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, DEPENDING ON ULTIMATE TIME FRAME ADOPTED TO APPLY NEW MEASURES AND QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF EXCEPTIONS. GREEKS, PORTUGUESE, AND PAKISTANIS HAVE SERVED THE SYSTEM AS RETAILERS, AGENTS, DEALERS AND SUDISTRIBUTORS FOR DECADES.

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THEY HAVE BEEN DECREED TO BE BOUGHT OUT BY MARCH 1, 1974.

ELIMINATION OF LARGE NUMBERS OF MIDDLEMEN WHO OPERAT OUTLETS
IN THE INTERLANDS, WHO HAVE AN ACCEPTABLE CREDIT RATING, WHO
ARE EXPERIENCED IN THE WAYS OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS, WHO MAINTAIN
TIES WITH IMPORTING AND DISTRIBUTION HOUSES IS BOUND TO AFFECT
THE COMMERCE OF THE COUNTRY.

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